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Message from the Mayor

With the excessive heat we're experiencing, it's important to remember how to care of ourselves so that we remain as comfortable as possible.

Some important tips to remember are:

- Drink plenty of fluids
- Wear loose-fitting clothing if possible
- If you have outside pets, remember to provide them with plenty of fresh water
- Never leave pets or children inside a car even with the windows down
- Plan your outdoor activities for early in the morning if possible.

On Thursday, I ordered District government agencies to immediately reduce energy consumption by raising the temperature on thermostats by one degree. I asked businessowners and District residents to do the same, in order to reduce the possibility of widespread power outages.

The city's response to this heat emergency has been outstanding but we can do more. It's essential that we conserve power to prevent broader power losses. With temperatures in the triple digits for two days and another week of 90-degree days on the way, we need to take prudent steps now to conserve power.

The District Department of the Environment's Energy Office (DDOE) has a limited number of fans for distribution to District households that meet the following criteria:

- Have at least one member age 5 or below, or
- Have at least one member age 60 or above, or
- Have at least one member who has a documented respiratory condition or a statement from a doctor or medical facility describing a need for some type of cooling assistance

Eligible households must also meet the federal income guidelines for energy assistance. For more information, contact the DC Energy Office Hotline at (202) 673-6750. The DDOE is also offering low-income District electric customers the opportunity to have their window air conditioners replaced with more energy efficient units. And, DDOE is also replacing energy deficient refrigerators. Again, eligibility to receive a replacement appliance depends on household income. Applicants should call the DC Energy Hotline for these appliances as well.

The District's Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has designated cooling centers at:

- 441 4th Street, NW (One Judiciary Square)
- 2000 14th Street, NW (Reeves Municipal Center)
- 3720 Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue, SE
- 25 M Street, SW

There are also cooling centers designated for seniors and for homeless individuals I encourage residents to check the District's website, dc.gov, for additional resources on cooling and tips for conserving energy.



10 PM Curfew Started Monday, July 31, 2006

To keep our city and our children safe, an alternative curfew for young people 16 and younger has gone into effect. On July 21, 2006, the City Council passed the Enhanced Crime Prevention and Abatement Emergency Amendment Act of 2006. This act gave me the authority to set alternative curfew hours to insure our children's safety.

Beginning Monday July 31, alternative curfew hours for young people 16 and younger were set from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. every night of the week. These curfew hours will last for 30 consecutive days and expire on Wednesday, August 30 at 11:59 p.m. After this date, curfew hours will go back to the hours currently in place pursuant to the Juvenile Curfew Act. The current curfew is now midnight to 6 a.m.

Too often, young people are becoming involved in violent crimes -- this earlier curfew hour is necessary in order to protect them from becoming victims of crime or from becoming involved in crimes at night.

Here are some things that you should know about the curfew:

- The curfew law applies to all persons 16 and younger who are in the District of Columbia during curfew hours. This includes both District residents as well as young people who reside elsewhere.
- Anyone 16 and younger who violates curfew will be detained by the Metropolitan Police Department. In most cases, the juvenile will be taken to one of two curfew centers operated by the DC government:
 - Choice Academy at Douglass Senior High School; 2600 Douglass Place, SW
 - Shaw Junior High School; 10th and R Streets, NW
- A parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult will be contacted to pick the child up immediately. If not picked up by 6:00 am, the juvenile will be handed over to the DC Child and Family Services Agency. Juveniles age 12 and younger who are picked up on curfew violations will immediately be turned over to the CFSA.
- A parent or legal guardian of a juvenile 16 and younger commits an offense if he or she knowingly permits, or by insufficient control allows, the minor to violate the curfew law. Any adult who violates the Juvenile Curfew Act is subject to a fine not to exceed \$500 or community service. A minor who violates curfew may be ordered to perform up to 25 hours of community service

While the alternative curfew is no panacea, it's an important way to help our police keep the streets safe. Curfews will keep our children safer, and encourage parents to take a stronger interest in the activities of their children and to take responsibility for their whereabouts.

The District of Columbia had a variety of programs and centers that serve young people seeking alternatives to being on the streets, including social, educational, recreational, and counseling services.

For more programs, call the District's Answer Please! helpline at (202) INFO-211 (463-6211).

Sports and Entertainment Commission Creates Working Capital Fund for Ballpark's Small Subcontractors

In its drive to meet the contracting goals that the Council and I outlined, the DC Sports and Entertainment Commission (DCSEC) announced this week approval of a groundbreaking \$1.5 million Working Capital Fund (WCF) for small subcontractors participating in construction of the new Washington Nationals Ballpark.

The revolving loan fund can be used to make advances to Local, Small, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (LSDBE) that may experience cash flow problems while working on the new ballpark project. Additionally, the DCSEC has arranged for an owner controlled insurance program to cover small subcontractors.

These actions will help ensure that LSDBE goals for the new ballpark can be achieved. We believe it's appropriate to provide small businesses with the tools necessary to perform this volume of work. Often, smaller firms find it difficult to participate in large public projects due to the insurance requirements and the large amounts of working capital that are needed. We don't envision that all of the LSDBEs will require this support, but some undoubtedly will.

The Sports Commission and Clark/Hunt/Smoot, the joint venture construction manager for the ballpark project, are already well on their way to meeting contracting goals. Through June, approximately \$212 million had been awarded for construction subcontracts, supplies and professional services. Of that amount, \$108 million has been committed to LSDBEs.

The Working Capital Fund will also significantly reduce the amount of time it takes a participant to get paid after submitting an invoice. Typically, this process can take 6 to 10 weeks. On the ballpark project, DCSEC has agreed to make payments by the 15th of each month rather than the end of the month.

To see construction of the new Washington Nationals Ballpark go to WashDCSports.com and click on the link to the webcam.



- BRC Alerts
- DCLMPC Partnership Works!
- DCOA Spotlight on Aging
- DHS Outreach
- DISB DC Financial Gateway Express
- OAG Inter Alia...
- OAPIA Updates
- OPGD Grant Funding Alerts

District's Sales Tax Holiday Begins Saturday

The District will offer a Sales Tax Holiday beginning 12:01 am Saturday, August 5 through midnight Sunday, August 13, to provide buyers an exemption from the 5.75 percent sales tax for shoes, clothing, and accessory items. The exemption covers each item costing \$100 or less.

The sales tax exemption will apply to each eligible item regardless of how many items are sold on the same bill to a customer. It will also apply to layaway sales if the retailer and customer enter into a layaway agreement or the customer makes the final payment on the layaway order during the exemption period.

Retailers filing monthly or annual Sales and Use tax returns should enter the total amount of tax exempted due to the Sales Tax Holiday along with any other exempt taxes on line 11 of the Sales Tax portion of the return. Retailers are also encouraged to clearly state in their records the type of item sold and the sales price of tax-exempt merchandise sold during the Sales Tax Holiday period.

The purpose of the August "holiday" is to encourage families who are preparing their children for the upcoming school year to shop in the District. In addition, there will be a second one held in November, beginning the weekend following Thanksgiving, November 24, and continuing through midnight December 3.

I am pleased that the city is in a position to offer this tax break, which was initially introduced by Councilmember Carol Schwartz, to families and individuals again this year. Hopefully, we can entice people from the suburbs to do even more of their shopping in DC during our tax-free week, and I know that our DC residents will welcome the extra cash in their pockets.

District's Population Increases for the First Time Since the 1950 Census

On July 25, the US Census Bureau officially agreed to boost the population number for Washington, DC to 582,049 as of July 1, 2005. I am deeply gratified that the Census Bureau agrees that, after a 56-year decline in population, we have finally turned the corner and begun the increase in the District's population I have pushed for throughout my time as Mayor.

This increase in population comes in spite of declines in the populations of urban centers nationwide, and reflects the sustained effort of my administration to make the District a more attractive place to live through development of new housing, retail and improved city services.

The fact that the city's population is growing again after decades of decline makes it essential to have a plan in place, and with the recent completion of the District's Comprehensive Plan, we are well-situated to manage this growth. The Comprehensive Plan anticipates a further increase of 100,000 residents over the next 20 years and includes policies to guide growth and development while conserving the quality of life in the district's neighborhoods.

This increase of more than 30,000 people will mean greater revenue from a number of federal programs, and it also represents an acknowledgement of what we have been saying all along—that the boom in residential development in the District represents a sizable increase in population.

DCRA Announces Office of Consumer Protection Workshop Schedule

(Washington, DC) Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) Director Patrick Canavan, Psy. D., announced a series of workshops sponsored by the agency's revitalized **Office of Consumer Protection**.

"We're excited to bring consumer education to each ward in the city," said Canavan. Our Office of Consumer Protection exists to help you make sure that you are not a fraud statistic and that you get everything you pay for. If you have a problem with a business in the District, we're here for you. We can help you become a smarter consumer."

It pays to be a smart consumer. According to a survey by the Federal Trade Commission, nearly 25 million Americans—11.2 percent of the adult population—experience consumer fraud each year. The Office of Consumer Protection is hosting a series of workshops to educate District residents on how they can protect and enhance their buying power.

Office of Consumer Protection Neighborhood Workshop Schedule			
Ward	Date	Public Library Location	Time
1	Tuesday, July 25	Mount Pleasant	6:30 - 8:30 pm
2	Wednesday, July 26	West End	6:30 - 8:30 pm
3	Thursday, August 3	Cleveland Park	6:30 - 8:30 pm
4	Wednesday, August 9	Thornton/Shepherd Park	6:30 - 8:30 pm
5	Tuesday, August 15	Lamont-Riggs	6:30 - 8:30 pm
6	Tuesday, August 22	Southeast Neighborhood	6:30 - 8:30 pm
7	Wednesday, August 30	Francis A. Gregory	6:30 - 8:30 pm
8	Tuesday, September 5	Washington Highlands	6:30 - 8:30 pm



District Activities



Mayor Williams joined federal and local officials during a press conference at the US Attorney's Office to announce joint efforts in response to the city's crime emergency.



Mayor Williams delivered remarks at the unveiling ceremony to dedicate the 400 block of T Street, NW, to the "Home of Walter Washington Way." He was joined by Mary Washington Burke, widow of the late Walter Washington, Councilmember Jim Graham, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, former DC Mayor Sharon Pratt, Chairman Linda Cropp, former US Senator Edward Brooke and other distinguished guests. Appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, Walter Washington became the first elected mayor of the city.



Mayor Williams and Councilmember Marion Barry went door-to-door and talked to youth in the Barry Farms and Woodland Terrace neighborhoods about the early curfew hours.



Mayor Williams handed out glowsticks to residents in Adams Morgan during one of his stops around the city for the 23rd annual National Night Out against crime.

Community News

- [Mayor Williams Directs City Agencies to Conserve Power During Heat Wave](#)
- [Mayor Signs Affordable Housing Legislation for Sursum Corda Neighborhood](#)
- [Mayor's Health Care Task Force Issues Draft Report](#)

Upcoming Events

[View All News Releases](#)

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|---------------|--|
| 8/5 | Riggs-LaSalle Recreation Center Ground-Breaking Ceremony
10 am - 11 am
501 Riggs Road NE
Washington, DC 20011 |
| 8/5-13 | Sales Tax Holiday
No sales tax on shoes, clothing and accessory items costing less than \$100. |
| 8/26 | DCPS Annual Beautification Project
8 am – 1 pm
At your neighborhood public school
To register, call Kris Benjamin at 727-0488
or email volunteer4schools@k12.dc.us |
| 9/7 | Elder Fest
Freedom Plaza |

